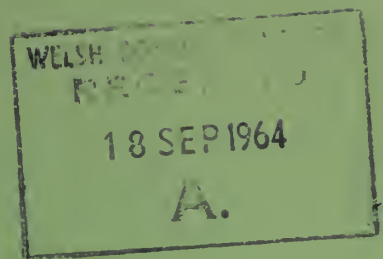


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**ABERYSTWYTH
BOROUGH COUNCIL**

Public Health Department

**Annual Report
1963**



ABERYSTWYTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

Mayor of Aberystwyth

Alderman R.K.Clues.

Committees dealing with Health matters

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Chairman</u>	<u>Members</u>
Health & Housing Committee,	Councillor H.C.Owen,	All Members of the Council.
Housing Sub-Committee,	Councillor H.C.Owen,	Ten Members.
Public Works Committee,	Alderman H.I.Owen,	All Members of the Council.

Public Health Officers of the Authority

Medical Officer of Health,	..	Joseph R. Jones, B.Sc., M.B., B.Ch., D.R.C.O.G., D.P.H.
Chief Public Health Inspector, Housing Inspector, Inspector of Meat and other Foods,	..	O.R.N.Hoskins, M.R.S.H.
Additional Public Health Inspector, Housing Inspector, Inspector of Meat and other Foods,	..	D.M.Lewis, C.R.S.H.



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To the Mayor, Aldermen and Members of the
Aberystwyth Borough Council.

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for 1963. In the 1962 report, I stated that "complacency is the worst enemy of preventive medicine especially in regard to infectious diseases". During 1962, there was an epidemic of smallpox and in 1963 there was an outbreak of typhoid involving over 400 people in Switzerland and some people from this country were involved in this. At the time of writing an outbreak has occurred in Aberdeen. Minor outbreaks of typhoid have occurred in this country in recent years due to people contacting the disease on the Continent and returning to this country during the incubation period. The mortality from typhoid has diminished greatly due to improved therapy, but it is a serious illness and spread of the disease frequently occurs from infected cases by faulty personal hygiene. Typhoid, paratyphoid and other organisms can be disseminated through contaminated food - such food supplies being contaminated by persons incubating the disease or symptomless carriers.

It is in this field of personal hygiene that much teaching is required. Periodically, posters supplied by the Central Council for Health Education and Ministry of Health are distributed to all food premises by Public Health Inspectors whilst, at the same time, emphasis is laid on the need to conform with the Food and Drugs Act and subsequent regulations. Personal hygiene in the homes is equally as important, for many persons do not wash their hands after being to the lavatory and public authorities should consider supplying hand washing facilities in their public lavatories free of charge.

I must also draw your attention to another infectious disease, namely venereal disease. The incidence of this disease is rising throughout the country and both adolescents and adults should be told that sexual promiscuity eventually leads to venereal infection.

Fluoridation was a topic much discussed during the year and the Council has made its decision. A recent paper published in the United States suggested that fluoridation of public water supplies might be the cause of mongolism in children. This has been firmly repudiated by many other studies. (In June, 1964, the Birmingham City Council commenced fluoridation of its public water supply).

The total population living within the Borough shows little change in number but one result of the 1961 Census has been to show that there are more women of child-bearing age (i.e. between the ages of 15 and 44) now living within the Borough than in the 1951 Census. This explains why the adjusted birth rate is lower than in the previous two years, whereas, in fact, the actual number of births is greater. The actual number of births to women normally domiciled within the Borough has increased gradually during the last three years.

The adjusted death rate is below the national average this year. The main cause of death remains lesions of the heart and arteries. There was no endemic of infectious disease; nine cases of tuberculosis were notified and all of these were over the age of 45, five being over the age of 65.

A detailed report by the Chief Public Health Inspector is also enclosed and I wish to thank him for his invaluable assistance.

YR ADRODDIAD BLYNYDDOL

Anrhydedd yw imi gyflwyno'r Adroddiad Blynyddol am 1963. Yn yr adroddiad am 1962, mynegais mai "ymfodddhad yw gelyn gwaethaf meddygaeth arbedadwy yn enwedig mewn cysylltiad â chlefydau heintus". Yn ystod 1962, bu epidemig o'r frech wen, ac yn 1963, cyffyrddodd haint typhoid â dros 400 o bobl yn yr Yswisdir ac fe gysylltiwyd rhai pobl o'r wlad hon â hyn. Tua'r adeg yr wyf yn ysgrifennu, digwyddodd haint yn Aberdeen. Digwyddodd heintiau llai o typhoid yn y wlad hon yn y blynyddoedd diweddaraf oherwydd i bobl gael y clefyd ar y Cyfandir, a dychwelyd i'r wlad hon yn ystod yr ysbaid deori. Bu i farwolaeth oddiwrth typhoid leihau'n enfawr o gael gwell therapi, ond salwch difrifol yw, ac ymleda'r clefyd yn aml oddiwrth bobl heintus trwy ddiffyg glendid personol. Fe ledaena typhoid, paratyphoid ac organebau eraill trwy fwyd llygredig - llygru'r bwyd gan rai'n deori'r clefyd, neu gludwyr di-arwydd.

Yn myd y glendid personol yma, rhaid wrth addysg. O amser i amser, ceir posteri gan Gyngor Canol Addysg Iechyd a'r Weinyddiaeth Iechyd a ddosberthir i bob adeilad bwyd gan yr Archwilwyr Iechyd Cyhoeddus; hefyd, ar yr un adeg, fe bwysleisir fod angen cydymffurfio â'r Ddeddf Fwyd a Chyffurau, a'r rheolau dilynol. Fe gymerth y gwaith hwn lawer o amser ond fe erys yn wir hanfodol. Mae glendid personol yn y cartrefi yr un mor bwysig, canys ni fydd llawer yn ymolchi dwylaw ar ol bod yn yr elysfa ac fe ddylai'r Awdurdodau Cyhoeddus roi cyfleusterau ymolchi dwylaw yn eu helysfeydd cyhoeddus yn rhad ac am ddim.

Rhaid imi dynnu'ch sylw at glefyd heintus arall, sef y clefyd gwenerol. Ehangu mae digwyddiad y clefyd hwn trwy'r wlad a dylid argyhoeddi'r llencyndod a'r oedolion fod diwahaniaeth rhywiol yn arwain yn y pen draw at glefyd gwenerol.

Yn ystod y flwyddyn bu ychwanegu "fluoride" i'r dŵr yn bwnc llosg a drafodwyd yn aml, a gwnaeth y Cyngor ei benderfyniad. Awgrymwyd mewn ysgrif diweddar a argraffwyd yn yr Unol Daleithiau fod ychwanegu "fluoride" i'r dŵr cyhoeddus efallai yn achosi mongoliaeth mewn plant. Fe ddiarddelir hyn yn bendant gan astudiaethau eraill. (Ym Mehefin, 1964, ychwanegwyd "fluoride" i'r dŵr cyhoeddus gan Gyngor Dinesig Birmingham).

Ni ddengys nifer y boblogaeth gyfan sy'n byw yn y Bwrdeisdref ond ychydig newid mewn rhif, ond un canlyniad a geir o'r Census 1961 yw fod mwy o wragedd o oedran dwyn plentyn (h.y. rhwng 15 a 44 oed) yn byw o fewn y Bwrdeisdref nag a geid yn y Census am 1951. Dengys hyn pam mae'r rhif genedigaeth cymwysedig yn is nag yn ystod y ddwy flynedd diwethaf pan fo'r union rif o enedigaethau i wragedd sydd yn byw'n arferol o fewn y Bwrdeisdref wedi cynyddu'n raddol yn ystod y tair blynedd diwethaf.

Eleni, ychydig yn is na'r rhif cymedrol cenedlaethol yw'r rhif marwolaethau cymwysedig, a phrif achos marwolaeth yw clefydau'r galon a'r rhydweliâu. Ni fu endemig o glwyf heintus - hysbyswyd naw â'r darfodedigaeth a'r rhain i gyd dros 45 mlwydd oed, pump ohonynt dros 65.

Fe geir adroddiad manwl hefyd yn dilyn gan y Prif Archwiliwr Iechyd Cyhoeddus, a cheisiaf ddiolch iddo am ei gymorth amhrisiadwy.

SUMMARY OF GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	..	..	..	..	..	1,141.
Population (Census 1961)	..	..	..	..	..	10,427.
Population (Registrar General's Mid-Year 1963)	..	..	..	..	..	10,360.
Rateable Value at 1st April 1963	..	..	..	..	..	£381,179.
Rateable Value at 1st April 1964	..	..	..	..	..	£385,572.
Sum represented by a penny rate 1963/64	..	..	..	..	..	£1,500.
Estimated sum to be obtained by a penny rate 1964/65	..	..	..	..	..	£1,550.

Number of various premises at 1st April 1964

Domestic

Houses and Flats (other than Agricultural Dwelling Houses)	2,879.
Agricultural Dwelling Houses	.. .. . 4.

Commercial.

Shops with Private Dwelling Accommodation	.. .. . 107.
Shops (including Banks in shopping areas) and Cafes	.. .. . 159.
Offices (including Banks in office areas)	.. .. . 75.
Public Houses including Beerhouses	.. .. . 22.
Hotels and Boarding Houses	.. .. . 30.
Holiday Camps and Caravan Fields	.. .. . 1.
Warehouses, Stores and Workshops	.. .. . 104.
Garages (Commercial) Petrol Filling Stations & Car Parks	.. .. . 25
Lock-up Garages	.. .. . 322.
Markets	.. .. . 2.
Advertising Stations and Signs	.. .. . 15.
Factories, Mills and other premises of a similar character	.. .. . 12.

Entertainment and Recreational.

Cinemas	.. .. . 3.
Sports and Recreation Grounds, Golf Courses	.. .. . 7.
Social Clubs, Community Centres and Public Halls	.. .. . 19.
Other places of entertainment and recreation	.. .. . 3.

Public Utility.

Water, Gas, Electricity, etc.,	.. .. . 4.
Other transport (including depots)	.. .. . 4.

Educational and Cultural.

Libraries, Museums, etc.,	.. .. . 2.
Schools and Colleges (Local Authority)	.. .. . 6.
Schools and Colleges (Non-Local Authority)	.. .. . 3.
University Colleges	.. .. . 4.

Miscellaneous.

Crown Occupations	.. .. . 29.
Other Hospitals, Clinics, etc.,	.. .. . 2.
Cemeteries	.. .. . 2.
Town Halls and Municipal Offices	.. .. . 4.
Properties not classified	.. .. . 59.

VITAL STATISTICS

1. <u>LIVE BIRTHS</u>										1963	1962	1961
Total	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	143	131	125
						Leg:	..	..	..	135	126	118
						Illeg:	..	..	..	8	5	7
Illegitimate live birth per cent of total live births										5.59	3.8	5.6
Rate per 1,000 population (crude)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	13.8	12.5	12.15
Rate per 1,000 population (adjusted)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11.87	13.5	13.12
Rate per 1,000 population England & Wales	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	18.20	18.00	17.40
2. <u>STILLBIRTHS</u>												
Total	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	3
						Leg:	..	..	..	1	2	3
						Illeg:	..	..	..	-	-	-
Rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6.94	15.03	23.44
Rate per 1,000 live & stillbirths England & Wales	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	17.3	18.10	19.80
3. <u>TOTAL LIVE AND STILLBIRTHS</u>										144	133	128
4. <u>PERI-NATAL MORTALITY</u> (Stillbirths plus early neo-natal deaths)												
Total	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	5	4
						Leg:	..	..	..	2	5	4
						Illeg:	..	..	..	-	-	-
Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	13.89	37.81	39.06
5. <u>EARLY NEO-NATAL MORTALITY</u> (deaths under one week)												
Total	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	3	2
						Leg:	..	..	..	1	3	2
						Illeg:	..	..	..	-	-	-
Rate per 1,000 total live births	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6.99	22.9	16.0
6. <u>LATE NEO-NATAL MORTALITY</u> (deaths over one week and under four weeks)												
Total	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	1
						Leg:	..	..	..	-	-	1
						Illeg:	..	..	..	-	-	-
Rate per 1,000 total live births	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	15.60
7. <u>INFANT MORTALITY</u> (total deaths under one year)												
Total	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	4	3
						Leg:	..	..	..	3	4	3
						Illeg:	..	..	..	-	-	-
Rate per 1,000 total live births	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	20.98	30.53	24.00
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	22.22	31.24	25.42
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
8. <u>MATERNAL MORTALITY</u> (including abortion)												
Number of deaths	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-

DEATHS

Total	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	136	156	156
Rate per 1,000 population (crude)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	13.13	14.88	15.16
Rate per 1,000 population (adjusted)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11.42	12.50	12.89
Rate per 1,000 population England & Wales	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12.20	11.90	12.00
Area comparability factor for births	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.86	1.08	1.08
Area comparability factor for deaths	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.87	0.84	0.85

The 1963 area comparability factors are based on population data derived from the 1961 Census, whereas previous years' area comparability factors were based on the 1951 Census results.

CAUSES OF DEATH

Registrar
General's
Code No.

Causes of death

Number of deaths
Male Female Total

1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	-	1
2	Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-
3	Syphilitic disease		1	1
4	Diphtheria	-	-	-
5	Whooping Cough	-	-	-
6	Meningococcal infections	-	-	-
7	Acute poliomyelitis	-	-	-
8	Measels	-	-	-
9	Other infective & parasitic diseases	-	1	1
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	2	2	4
11	Malignant neoplasm lung, bronchus	5	1	6
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	2	2
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	2	2
14	Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	6	8	14
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-	-
16	Diabetes	-	-	-
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	8	10	18
18	Coronary disease, angina	14	14	28
19	Hypertension with heart disease	3	-	3
20	Other heart disease	7	13	20
21	Other circulatory disease	1	6	7
22	Influenza	-	-	-
23	Pneumonia	2	5	7
24	Bronchitis	2	1	3
25	Other diseases of respiratory system	-	-	-
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	-	-
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea		1	1
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	-	1	1
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-	1
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-
31	Congenital malformations	-	2	2
32	Other defined & ill-defined diseases	4	5	9
33	Motor vehicle accidents	-	-	-
34	All other accidents	2	28	4
35	Suicide	1	-	1
36	Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-
		59	77	136

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following is a list of the notifications of infectious disease, other than tuberculosis, received during the year.

Diphtheria	Nil
Dysentery (amoebic & bacillary)	1
Encephalitis	Nil
Erysipelas	Nil
Food poisoning	Nil
Measles	34
Meningococcal meningitis	Nil
Paratyphoid fever	2
Pneumonia (acute primary & acute influenzal)	Nil
Poliomyelitis	Nil
Relapsing fever	Nil
Scarlet fever	2
Smallpox	Nil
Whooping Cough	Nil

TUBERCULOSIS

The following table shows the sex and age distribution of the new cases of tuberculosis notified during the year.

AGE GROUP	RESPIRATORY		NON-RESPIRATORY	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
5 - 14	-	-	-	-
15 - 24	-	-	-	-
25 - 44	1	1	-	-
45 - 64	1	1	-	-
65 +	2	2	-	1
TOTAL:	4	4	-	1

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN
THE AREA

These remain essentially the same as in previous years, and are under the control of the County Council.

SECTION 47 of the NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

One person was admitted to hospital under this order.

JOS. R. JONES

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Cardiganshire Joint District Councils,
Swyddfa'r Sir,
(County Office)
ABERYSTWYTH.

July, 1964.

REPORT OF CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

To The Mayor, Chairman of the Health and Housing Committee,
Aldermen and Members of the Aberystwyth Borough Council.

Gentlemen,

I herewith submit my part of the Annual Report for your consideration.

The Penybont building scheme involving the erection of three-storey flats was completed during the early part of the year and the rate of private building has again increased.

The several large building projects in the locality have continued to affect the building labour and made property repairs difficult and costly.

The variety of work done by the Department can be seen in this report and the continual introduction of new legislation keeps the work fluid. Staff increase has been avoided, but is now essential if the additional duties laid upon the Borough are to be properly met.

No one could pretend that the work of the Department is that of one person and I acknowledge the willing assistance of my colleagues for their ever ready help in carrying out the duties for which I am responsible.

GENERAL INSPECTIONS.

Enforcement.

Complaints received	..	..	..	..	..	203
Complaints not justified..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Matters referred to other Departments	..	..	..	..	..	152
Preliminary Notices served	..	..	..	..	..	38
Informal Notices complied	..	..	..	..	..	21
Number of houses which on inspection were considered to be unfit for human habitation	..	..	..	..	..	5
Number of formal notices served requiring the execution of works under Public Health Act	..	..	..	..	..	7
Number of houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices under Public Health Act	..	..	..	..	..	6
Number of Demolition Orders made	..	..	..	..	..	1
Number of houses demolished	..	..	..	..	..	3
Number of houses inspected (Public Health Act and Housing Act)	..	..	..	..	..	73
Number of houses re-inspected (Public Health Act and Housing Act)	..	..	..	..	..	107
Premises other than houses inspected	..	..	..	..	..	110
Visits for infectious disease	..	..	..	..	..	14
Disinfections	..	..	..	..	..	2
Owners, or Contractors interviewed	..	..	..	..	..	60
Factories :-						
Power :- Bakehouses	..	..	..	..	..	7
Laundries	..	..	..	..	..	2
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	..	10
Number of Council dwellings visited and re-visited	..	..	..	..	..	216
Number of visits re housing applications	..	..	..	..	..	102
Caravan Act inspections	..	..	..	..	..	4

SUMMARY OF WORK EXECUTED

Premises

Dirty or verminous conditions remedied	2
Nuisances, including noise, from animals or birds abated ..	1
Yard paving provided, renewed or repaired	6
Chimneys repaired	2
Roofs renewed or repaired	4
Accumulations removed	7
Chutes, downpipes or gutters renewed or repaired ..	4
Smoke nuisances remedied	3
Dampness remedied	7
Walls repaired	6
Inside plastering repaired	7
Ceilings repaired	6
Window sashes or frames renewed or repaired	24
Doors or frames renewed or repaired	18
Floors repaired or renewed	6
Staircases repaired	3
Fireplaces repaired or renewed.. ..	22
Rooms, passages and staircases redecorated	33
Cookers repaired, renewed or provided	1

Drainage

Drains inspected	30
Drains tested, Water.. ..	22
Drains re-laid or repaired	13
Drains cleansed	25
Inspection chambers repaired	6
Soil pipes or vent shafts fixed or repaired	5
Waste pipes provided or repaired	7
Sinks provided, renewed or repaired	10
Lavatory basins renewed or repaired	7
Lavatory basins provided	3
Baths renewed or repaired	2
Gullies provided, replaced or repaired	13

Water Closets

W.C.'s reconstructed or repaired	3
Pans provided or repaired	3
Miscellaneous repairs	7

Services

Water pipes renewed or repaired	4
Hot water systems provided	1
Hot water systems renewed or repaired	4

Other classifications

Cinemas and Amusement Places	..	..	2
Public Houses and Licensed Premises	..	..	24
Water supply and sampling visits	..	..	18
Refuse Tips	..	..	2
Accumulations	..	..	4
Sewers	..	..	8
Drains and drainage	..	..	130
Public conveniences	..	..	6
Cesspools	..	..	6
Flooding	..	..	6
Swine, other animals and birds	..	..	1
Infestations of vermin	..	..	2
Slaughterhouse visits	..	..	706
Attested Mart visits	..	..	204
Visits not classified	..	..	85

Food and Drugs Acts.

Food premises

Milk Regulations, Dairies, Milkshop & Purveyors visits	4
Ice-cream premises and vehicles (Inspection & sampling)	22
Restaurant and food preparing premises	.. 34
Butchers	.. .. 22
Bakehouses	.. .. 2
Greengrocers and Fishmongers	.. .. 17
Railway depot re food	.. .. 4
Food vehicles	.. .. 1
General inspections and condemned food	.. 383

Food Hygiene Regulations.

Premises inspected and re-inspected 30
-------------------------------------	----------

Pests Act, 1949.

Premises inspected 34
--------------------	----------

Schools.

Kitchens, visits 2
------------------	---------

Miscellaneous.

Swimming Baths, visits 2
------------------------	---------

MEAT INSPECTION (ABATTOIR).

This table indicates the ante and post mortem examinations carried out at the Abattoir.

Aberystwyth Abattoir.

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total
Number of animals killed and inspected	1,212	775	28,467	3,757	34,211.
<u>Percentage of total.</u>					
<u>All diseases except T.B.</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	11	10	95	4	7,659 lbs
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	99	2	244	37	3,244 lbs
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than T.B.	9.1 %	1.5 %	1.2 %	2.4 %	-
<u>Tuberculosis only.</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	12	-	-	-	4,349 lbs
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	27	-	-	2	762 lbs
Percentage of the number inspected affected with T.B.	3.2 %	-	-	.05 %	-
<u>Total weight of meat condemned at Abattoir</u>					= 16,014 lbs

It will be noted that 34,211 animals entered the Abattoir during 1963, a decline of 6,346, although the number of cattle showed a slight increase.

T.B. reactors have increased during the year and twelve whole and twenty-seven part carcasses were affected and condemned. These figures of course depend upon the number of reactors diverted to the Abattoir from the Ministry of Agriculture under their Tuberculosis (Slaughter of Reactors) Order, 1950.

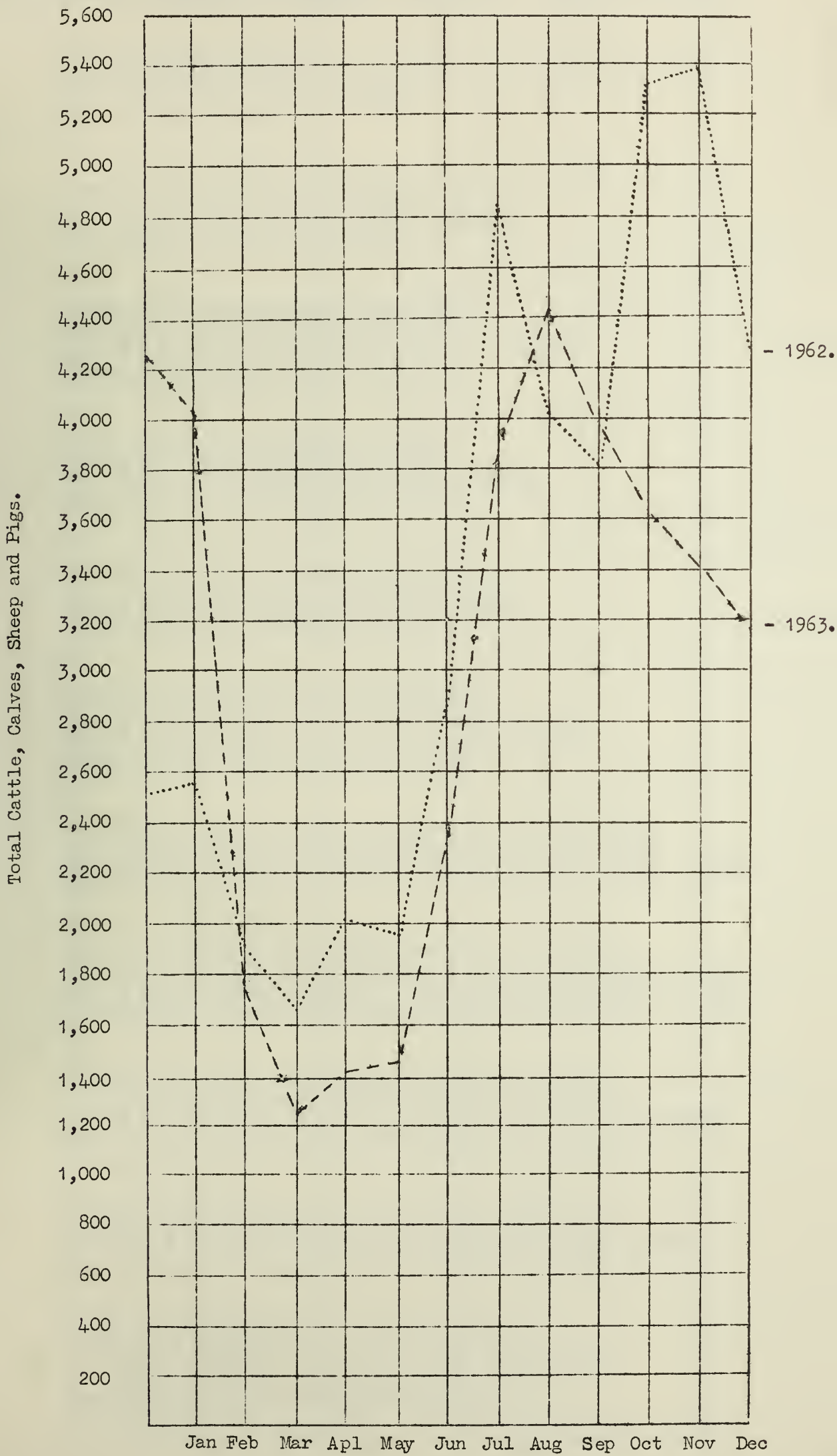
From the 1st April to end of August, the Ministry of Agriculture ceased to pay part of the cost of inspecting export meat. On the 1st September the new scheme was commenced in which meat inspection charges were introduced and has worked smoothly ever since. There was no great difference as we had always carried out 100% meat inspection, but the work has entailed almost double the time spent on this duty as the meat stamping involves a duplication of effort.

The happy relations between the Veterinary Officers of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food at Aberystwyth has continued.

On another page a block chart has been prepared showing the throughput of animals at the Abattoir during the past ten years.

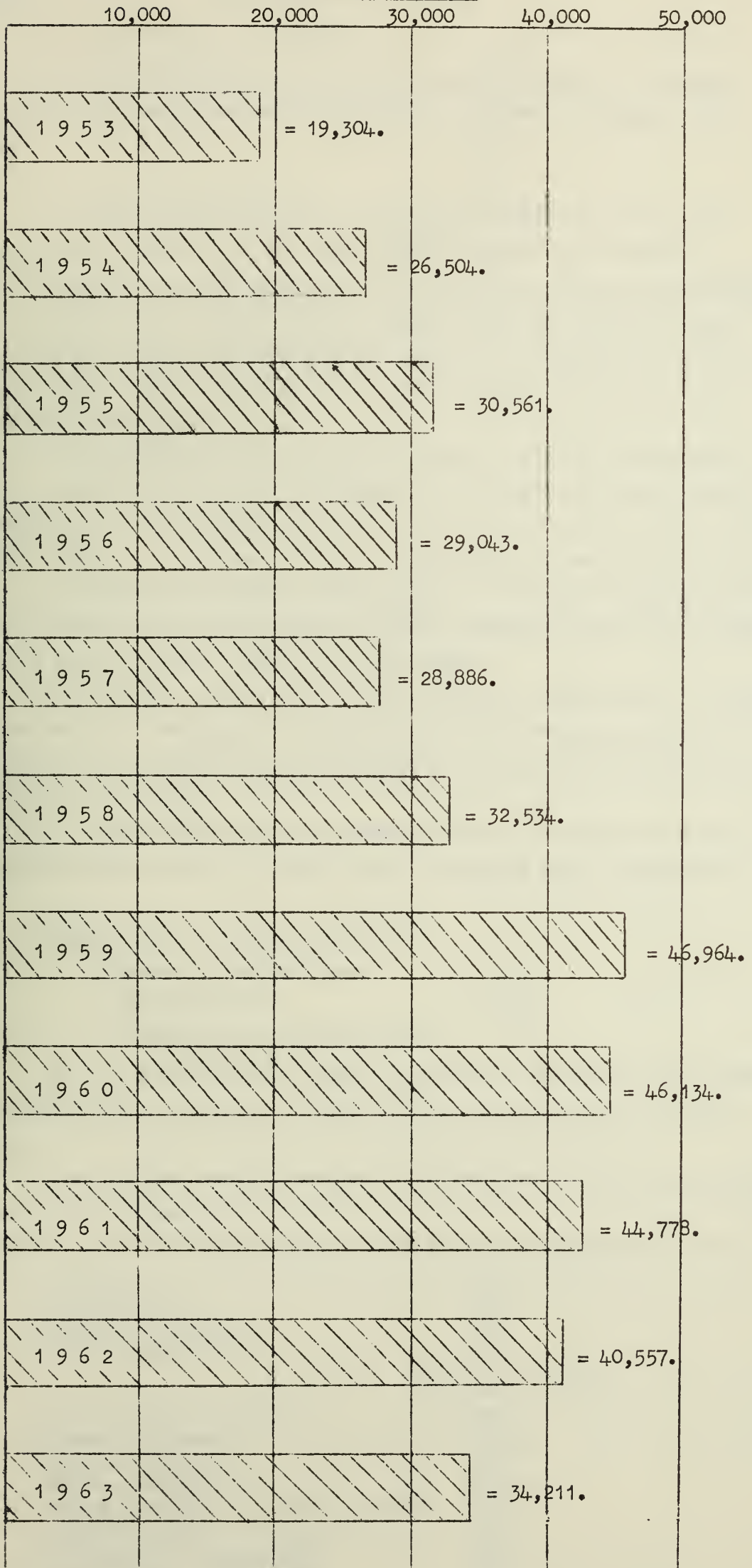
ABATTOIR.

The graph below shows the fluctuation of slaughtering throughput for the year compared with the previous year.



ABATTOIR

Total animal throughput



WATER SUPPLY.

Quality.

The water supply during the year was satisfactory in quality, two samples being taken from different points each week to ensure fair coverage.

Quantity.

The severe winter caused so much frost damage that the mains froze in certain streets and the only possible supply was by means of standpipes inserted at fire hydrants in the roadways. Queues of housewives with all sorts of water vessels were a regular sight for several weeks.

Matters came to a crisis on the morning of February 14th, when the mains supply serving the General Hospital, Bryn Road and Town Hall areas ceased altogether.

The Milk Marketing Board offered help by provision of tanker vehicles if required and the Fire Brigade were brought in to help maintain the feed tanks of the Hospital hot water system should matters become more critical. This did not happen and water supply was restored after 10 p.m.

One hostel was without water supply for sanitary purposes for seven weeks and finally improvised supplies through temporary pipes were provided which with better weather cleared the difficulty.

So short did water finally become through leaking mains and supply pipes that with the exception of Bath Street and the Parking Ground, all conveniences were closed and users directed to the British Railways Station which had its own supply.

The summer supply proved adequate for the first time in several years and the cool weather no doubt helped to prevent heavy consumption.

Samples.

Samples results were as follows :-

Number of samples taken	= 103.
"Satisfactory"	= 102.
"Insufficiently Chlorinated"	= 1.

The one unsatisfactory sample was retaken immediately and proved to be satisfactory. It may be a dirty bottle or unsatisfactory sampling technique.

A sample for chemical analysis was submitted to the Public Analyst who reported as follows :-

Samples taken from Public Supply at Town Hall, Aberystwyth, 18.12.63.

pH Value	6.4
pH Saturation	8.0
Saturation Index	-1.6
Colour (Hazen Units)	Nil
<u>Parts per million</u>	
Free and Saline Ammonia	Nil
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.016
Nitrite Nitrogen	Nil
Nitrate Nitrogen	0.25
Oxygen consumed in 4 hours at 80°F	0.10
Chloride as Cl.	12.5
Calculated as common salt	20.6
Total Solids in Solution	45

WATER SUPPLY (Continued)

Additional Information

Line as CaO	10.0
Total Alkalinity as CaCO ₃	15.0
Total Hardness	15.0
Iron (Fe)	0.15
Lead (PB)	Nil
Residual Chlorine	1.6
Residual Alumina	0.10
Appearance	Bright and Clear.

Observations.

This was a water of excellent organic purity. It was free from colour and suspended matter. Its iron content was well below the limit of 0.30 p.p.m. laid down by authorities as the permissible concentration in public supplied. The residual Alumina was satisfactory low, viz. 0.10 p.p.m. but the free Chlorine content was rather high when received at the laboratory.

This water was from a chemical point of view of good quality for use for drinking and domestic purposes.

Plumbo-solvency.

In new buildings and replacement or alteration works copper and plastic pipes have almost eliminated the use of lead which is most fortunate owing to the softness of the water supply. No human troubles which can be directed at the water supply have been notified.

Contamination.

There is no evidence of contamination and indeed the Water Board have on occasions appeared to have pursued a policy of almost super-chlorination.

Supply of dwellings.

	<u>Dwellings</u>	<u>Persons</u>
Mains supply direct to dwellings ..	2,938	10,356
Standpipes for dwellings ..	2	4
	<u>2,940</u>	<u>10,360</u>

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS.

There are eighteen registered distributors as follows :-

Milk Shops	..	4.
Milk Shops with rounds	..	1.
Roundsmen only	..	13.

The bulk of milk supplies in the Borough are derived from one wholesale dairy from which they are collected in bottled form and distributed by retail roundsmen.

Most of the milk is 'pasteurised', a small quantity is farm bottled, and two of the distributors sell bottled milk brought into the Borough by rail. A small quantity of carton milk is sold, but the demand for these non-returnable containers appears to be increasing.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.

Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955.

Progress has not been spectacular though there has been a considerable improvement. The tendency is still to put a better face than rear and there is much room for improvement in some premises. Customers have some remedy in their own hands and should not tolerate the unnecessary handling of open food, blowing of paper bags, finger licking and presence of flies.

More pre-packing of food is taking place and this helps in reducing contamination, but it has to be remembered that the conditions under which it is packed are not always desirable and the reason for packaging may be only to obtain higher payment for pseudo cleanliness.

There is still much opportunity for the government to put over repeated hygiene announcements so that the public becomes aggressively demanding in their own hygiene interests.

It is regrettable that a form of licence is not required on an annual renewal basis for anyone wishing to open a food shop or catering establishment. It seems impossible to control persons in catering back-room jobs who are inherently slap-happy and careless in their own habits. Possibly personal licensing and annual medical checks are a solution. The idea does seem to be worth examination.

Food inspection.

Food premises have been inspected and quantities of foodstuffs inspected both on the premises and at the office; the quantity of food examined has been greater, but as a holiday resort and terminus town the catering business produces some additional reason for the amounts. Meat for cold meals seems the bulk item.

Three samples of fresh cream were taken and the Laboratory reported 'No pathogenic organisms isolated'.

Condemnations.

Fresh and canned meat and meat products	..	2,634 lbs.
Fish, wet	..	112 lbs.
Canned and Miscellaneous condemned	..	2,440 lbs.
<u>Total foodstuffs condemned</u>	..	<u>5,186 lbs.</u>

Disposal of condemned foodstuffs.

Puncture and burial of tinned goods and the destruction by incineration of dried goods is the usual method of disposal, but with the decrease in number of solid fuel burning incinerators some other form of destruction may be required in the next few years.

ICE-CREAM.

There are fifty-one registered distributors in the Borough, most of these selling nationally known products in pre-packed form. There are still four concerns making ice-cream for consumption on the premises or elsewhere, and there has been a tendency towards soft ice-cream in consumable wafers or cones. Soft ice-cream does lend itself to more chances of contamination and increased sampling will be required.

Twelve samples were taken and all were in 'Grade 1'.

INTERNATIONAL HEALTH.

The International Sanitary Regulations, (World Health Regulations No. 2,) to which Great Britain is a signatory power, require the certification of international vaccination and inoculation documents for persons living within the Borough and proceeding to overseas destinations. Forty-nine certificates were authenticated in the prescribed manner for this purpose.

Stocks of Cholera and Smallpox Certificates are maintained in the Department and can be authenticated at any time in an emergency.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 - 1961.

There are sixty-four factories registered in the Borough, fifty-eight are power operated and six non-power. Responsibility for the supervision of power operated factories is vested in the Ministry of Labour and National Service, except for the provision of sanitary accommodation. In the non-power factories the Local Authority is responsible for matters concerned with cleanliness, overcrowding, temperature, ventilation, drainage of floors and sanitation.

The Factory Inspector of the Ministry notifies the existence of building operations and work of engineering construction in order that the Council may enforce the requirements of Section 7, of the Act, relating to sanitary conveniences on those sites or places of work, and in this connection one communication was received. It should be noted that the provision of sanitary accommodation for persons employed on building or engineering works, or indeed on any project, is essential.

(See Appendix 1)

HOUSING

Private construction numbered twenty-four dwellings, and twenty-six new Council flats were completed. The housing demand shows an increase on the previous year from 287 to a total of 289 applications. As will be seen in the table below 79% of these were in respect of couples or those with one child.

There were 97 new applications compared with 83 in the previous year, and arising from these new applications accommodation at present is required for 149 persons.

Some 57 new lettings were effected from the Housing List, accommodation being provided for 190 persons. Transfers were arranged for 17 families, comprising 73 persons, in pursuance of the maximum use of housing accommodation. In addition 3 mutual exchanges involving 20 persons were affected. 283 persons in all were thus provided with housing accommodation during the year.

Applicants with :-	0	1	2	3	4 or more children
Total	131	99	41	13	5
Percentage of total	45.3 %	34.2 %	14.2 %	4.5 %	1.8 %

From the table below it will be seen that the requirements for two bedroom dwellings shows an increase, whilst that for three bedroom dwellings shows little change, and for four bedroom dwellings a slight increase, and for four bedroom dwellings has decreased slightly.

As at 1st January	1962	1963	1964
2 bm: dwellings	78.3%	75.7%	79.5%
3 bm: dwellings	14.9%	16.7%	14.2%
4 bm: dwellings	7.0%	7.6%	6.3%

The outstanding demand is still from applicants who could be housed in two bedroom dwellings, couples and those with one child or dependent are considered suitable size units. The number of applicants with two children is not as great.

Since the commencement of the year the outstanding shortage of accommodation has been for elderly persons requiring one or two bedroom accommodation, particularly in the town area, as the more hilly parts of Penparcau are considered to be difficult by many elderly persons.

Due to the changing pattern of employment many people stay in the town for relatively short periods, even in the higher income groups, and a constant demand remains for letting accommodation exists. One, two and three bedroom dwellings are urgently needed by University staff, Civil Service, employees of National undertakings, Local Government, and other occupations. Young newly married couples and married students have special needs for small accommodation requiring little furniture.

Rats and Mice.

	Owned by Local Authority (Non-domestic)	Dwelling houses (Local Authority and Private)	Other premises (Business and Industrial)	Total
Number of premises	12	2,883	1,025	3,920
Inspected as the result of:-				
(a) Notification	19	65	20	104
(b) Survey under	-	461	30	491
(c) Otherwise	-	3	2	5
Total inspections & reinspections	215	900	159	1,274
Infested by mice	3	32	8	43
Infested by rats	16	49	19	84
Total treatments & retreatments	215	439	129	783

The table above includes the result of fifteen block inspections which have covered a considerable part of the town in addition to the routine complaint and infestation work.

The sewers were treated once during the year and each manhole was inspected, pre-baited and poisoned. There does not appear to be any major sewer or surface infestation in the Borough, but there is still evidence of minor infestations, more particularly in the older parts of the town. It would appear that the constant work in this respect is responsible for the reasonably satisfactory condition.

There are three hundred and eighty manholes known to exist and a record is kept in respect of each one.

Infestation complaints numbered one hundred and twenty seven, eighty four from rats and forty three by mice, Each complaint was followed by action to secure abatement.

Disinfestation - Vermin.

Treatment was carried out in eighteen business and domestic premises for infestation by fleas, beetles and ants. Charges were made and advice was given where necessary.

DISINFECTION.

The steam disinfecter owned by the Council is in working order ready for use. The transportable container which fits our motor vehicles for the removal of infected bedding, etc., is in good condition.

Disinfection was carried out in one case for infectious disease.

Equipment is available for any normal emergency which may arise at short notice.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

The new public convenience in Penparcau is under construction and will shortly be finished.

Certain public conveniences in the Borough are without water points enabling them to be cleaned by hose pipe and in general the question of reconstruction is indicated as some have deteriorated ~~very much over~~ the years. The cleaning staff work under considerable difficulties and it is very hard to secure satisfactory cleanliness without a proper water supply in every convenience.

As a terminus town, Aberystwyth needs to provide more numerous toilets and washing facilities especially at the car park to deal with peak periods. It is a matter of policy but the question of fewer and larger conveniences deserves consideration. As a holiday town the public conveniences are very important particularly after the end of several hours travelling for visitors, and the first impression made by a prestige public convenience would seem justified as the public are very quick to assess an area by its attention to personal requirements.

The beach at the end of Victoria Terrace is very popular but has no satisfactory conveniences in the area and it may be necessary to consider such provisions in the future.

Another area where a public convenience is immediately necessary is Tan-y-bwlch beach, and apart from the water supply disposal should provide no great difficulty.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

Refuse collection together with other salvage and disposal is under the control of the Borough Surveyor. Domestic and trade refuse are normally collected once weekly and in certain cases more frequent collections are arranged.

The refuse is tipped at Felinymor and soil from the site is used for covering.

There is an increase in the number of proper refuse bins but there are still many cases of improvised containers which should not be used. It is a matter of regret that refuse is still placed in unsuitable containers. During the last few years refuse bins have been available with rubber covers and in some cases with rubber bases. The use of these considerably reduces much of the noise with which a collection of refuse is associated.

CAMPING AND CARAVAN SITES.

The holiday camp established within the Borough is well run and the owners co-operate in all mutual matters.

New toilet blocks have been constructed and other facilities are continually being provided.

There are no other private authorised sites in the Borough.

SEWERAGE AND SEWETAGE DISPOSAL.

Thirty-eight dwellings in the Borough are not connected to the public sewers, seven have earth or chemical closets and thirty-one are connected to cesspools. The willing co-operation of the Aberaeron Rural District Council, enables cesspools to be emptied by means of a special vehicle owned by that authority on a repayment basis.

The Antaron Avenue and Penyranchor areas are still not connected to the sewerage system and trouble regularly occurs as a result. Even the emptying process has occasional troubles and this difficulty is likely to continue until connections are made to the sewers.

SWIMMING BATH AND PADDLING POOL.

The only swimming bath in the Borough is owned by the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth, and its use is restricted to students, college staff and families, and during term time this facility is extended to cover pupils of the local Grammar School, Secondary Modern School and the College of Further Education. The standard of maintenance and cleanliness is very high.

The Council own a paddling pool on the Promenade which is mechanically filled with sea water and emptied by gravity. The pool is popular with children and requires re-filling daily.

LICENSED VICTUALLING AND CLUBS.

The steady improvements in licensed premises and clubs in the Borough has continued and still further alterations are contemplated. One premises was almost completely re-built internally and another was extensively re-constructed to provide additional accommodation and improved toilet facilities. Two other premises were extensively altered to improve toilet facilities for males and one hotel was reconstructed internally and new drainage provided.

The willing co-operation of the owners is acknowledged in this matter and at no time are there any difficulties in securing reasonable means of alterations.

The Licensing Justices take a very great interest in the maintenance of high standards and this is apparent from the conditions which result.

HEALTH CONFERENCE, ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC HEALTH
INSPECTORS.

Eastbourne, 24th-27th September, 1963.

The Chairman of the Health and Housing Committee and your Chief Public Health Inspector attended as your representatives. Following the official welcome by the Mayor of Eastbourne, the undermentioned papers were presented and became the subject of valuable discussion.

From the foregoing it will be gathered that a wide range of interest was covered and your delegates were very grateful for the opportunity afforded.

Symposium on Food Hygiene.

"The Meat Processing Industry" by L. G. Cooper, Esq.

"Vehicles and Outdoor Sales" by A. C. Horne, Esq.

"Retail Premises" by H. L. Hughes, Esq.

"Improving Our Homes - A Plan for Action" presented by E. M. Birtwistle, Esq.

"Ministry of Transport Regulations Governing Crew Accommodation in Merchant Ships" by H. K. Macrorie, Esq.

"The Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963" by W. Bate, Esq.

"Clearing the Air - The Domestic Contribution" by T. H. Iddison, Esq.

"The Economics of Public Cleansing" by W. H. Mason, Esq.

"Consumer Protection and the Public Health Inspector" by C. W. Stacey, Esq.

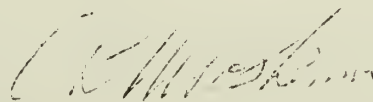
"Antibiotics in Fish" by J. D. Syme, Esq.

"The Implementation of the Meat Inspector Regulations" by D. S. Smith, Esq.

"New Materials and Techniques in Building" by Dr. T. W. Parker, Esq.

I hope the foregoing has proved of interest, and this concludes my report for the year 1963.

I am, Gentlemen,
Yours obediently,



Chief Public Health Inspector.

Public Health Department,
Town Hall,
Aberystwyth.
Tel: Aberystwyth 7911.

PRESCRIBES PARTICULARS ON THE ADMINISTRATION
OF THE FACTORIES ACTS, 1937-1961.

Part I of the Act

Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.. ..	6	-	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.. ..	58	19	1	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	1	1	-	-
Total	65	20	1	-

Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
) Unsuitable or defective	-	1	-	1	-
) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outworkers)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	1	-	1	-

Part VIII of the Act, Outwork - Nil.

